

**MARVEL**

**16**

LGY#782

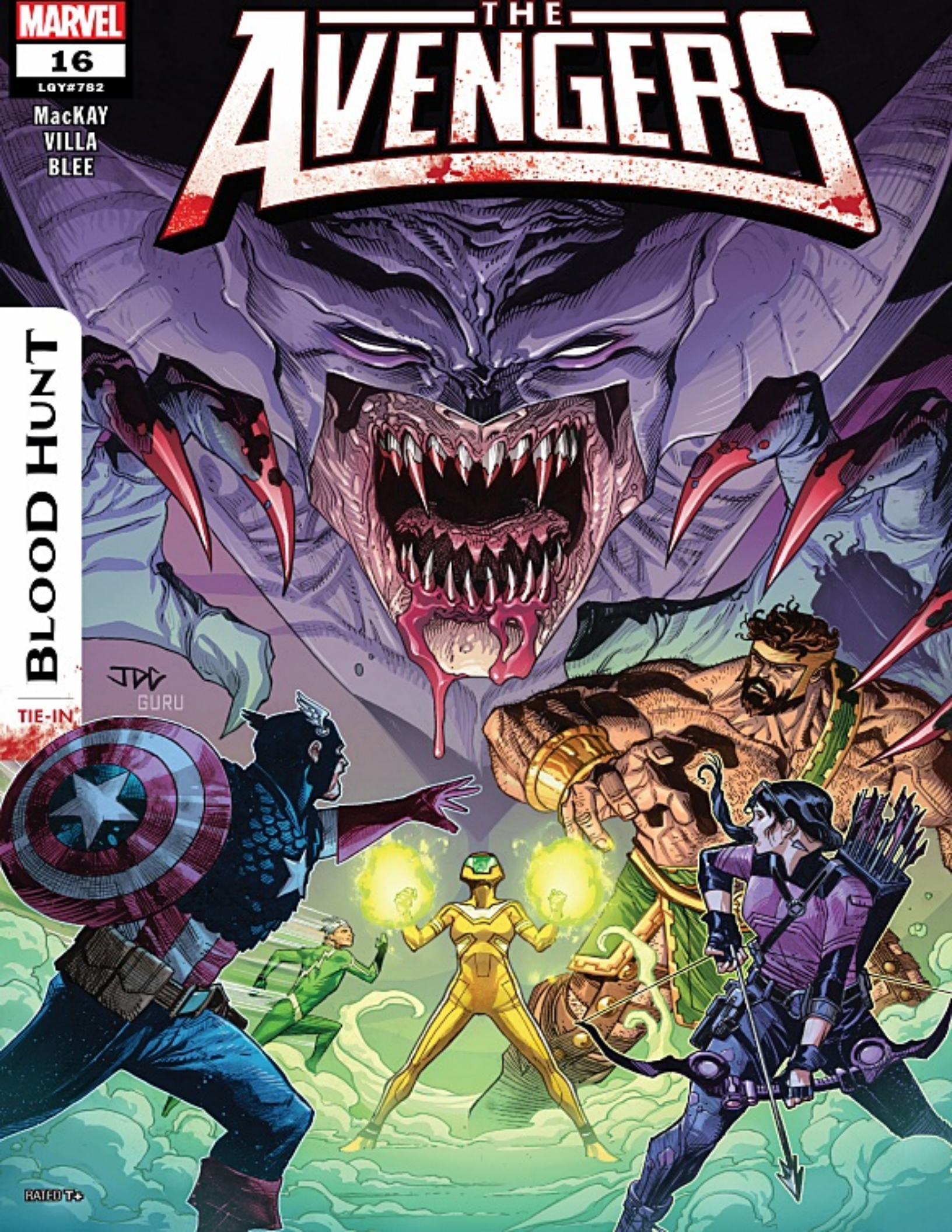
MacKAY  
VILLA  
BLEE

# THE AVENGERS

**BLOOD HUNT**

MD  
GURU

TIE-IN



RATED T+



And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born.  
To fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

# THE AVENGERS

Vampires have descended upon the Earth! While Captain Marvel and her Avengers deal with the problem at the heart of this perpetual night, **Captain America** has pulled together a team dedicated to protecting civilians. But Steve Rogers, **Hercules**, **Hawkeye**, **Hazmat** and **Quicksilver** soon found themselves—along with a whole bunch of civilian hostages—pulled onto a Helicarrier manned by vampire Nazis, with none other than **Baron Blood** leading them!

Cap's seized control of the Helicarrier—but there are still hundreds of vampires on board to deal with...

## "BLOOD HUNT" FINALE

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IT'S BEEN A  
WHILE SINCE I'VE  
PILOTED A  
HELICARRIER.

HOLD  
ON!

WHAT  
ARE YOU DOING,  
YOU MANIAC?!

BUT THAT'S  
OKAY. IT'S LIKE  
RIDING A BIKE.

A 200,000 TON  
FLYING BIKE.

IT'S A  
ROUGH RIDE.

WHAT IS HE  
THINKING?

IT'S CAPTAIN  
AMERICA--HE  
KNOWS WHAT  
HE'S DOING.

BUT THE SIMPLE  
TRUTH IS THIS:

IF THE VAMPIRES  
HAVE TAKEN THE  
SUNLIGHT FROM US...







...THEN WE JUST  
HAVE TO GO TO  
THE SUNLIGHT.



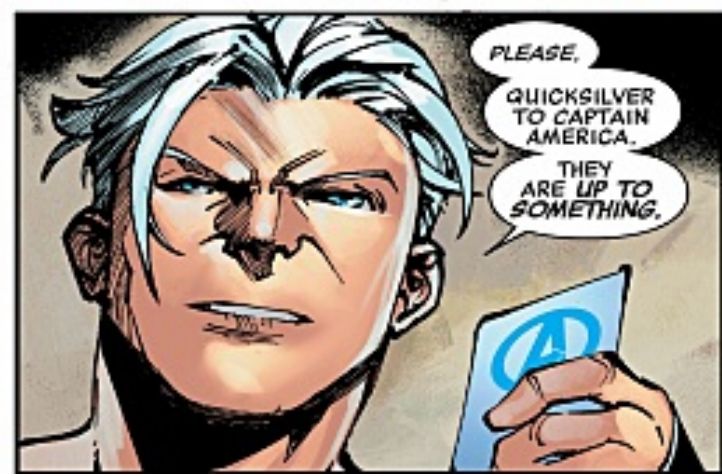
















STEVE?

UNLESS  
YOU ARE TOO  
BUSY--

NEVER  
TOO BUSY FOR  
YOU, PIETRO.

RAAAAAGHHH!



THE  
VAMPIRES ARE  
RETREATING.

IT WOULD  
APPEAR THAT  
THEY HAVE A  
PLAN.

YAAAAA!

THEN  
INTERFERE WITH  
IT, PIETRO, YOU'RE  
GOOD AT THAT--

WHUFF!

EXCUSE  
ME?





PIETRO--AND  
I SAY THIS WITH  
LOVE--YOU ARE ONE  
OF THE BIGGEST PAINS  
IN THE NECK I'VE  
EVER KNOWN.

SO APPLY  
THOSE SKILLS,  
PLEASE.

SIGH--  
VERY WELL.

NOW...



...HAVE YOU  
CAUGHT YOUR  
BREATH? DO YOU FEEL  
UP TO BRAGGING ABOUT  
WHATEVER YOUR BOOT  
BOYS ARE UP TO?



OH,  
CAPTAIN.


I'D RUB  
YOUR NOSE IN  
THIS IF IT WAS  
MY VERY LAST  
BREATH.



DID YOU  
REALLY THINK THAT  
I WOULDN'T HAVE A  
PLAN IN PLACE IF MY  
FLAGSHIP WAS  
LOST?

THAT MY  
VAMPIRES  
WOULDN'T  
KNOW WHAT  
TO DO?





AND WHAT  
IS THE LOSS OF A  
FLAGSHIP... COMPARED  
TO KILLING CAPTAIN  
AMERICA?


AND  
A TEAM OF  
AVENGERS?

YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
SCUTTLE  
THE SHIP.



I  
AM.  
BY THE BY,  
CAPTAIN... NONE  
OF YOUR AVENGERS  
FLY, DO THEY?

BECAUSE  
I DO.



ALONG WITH  
ALL THE PEOPLE  
YOU'VE ABDUCTED?  
ALONG WITH YOUR  
FOLLOWERS?

YOU'D  
SACRIFICE  
YOUR OWN  
PEOPLE?

OF  
COURSE I  
WOULD.

NO  
GREAT  
LOSS.

THERE HAS  
NOT, NOR WILL  
THERE EVER BE,  
A SHORTAGE OF  
CREDULOUS  
FOOLS WAITING  
TO STEP IN  
LINE.





YOU GET ALL THAT, PIETRO?

I DID.

I WILL LEAVE YOU TO IT THEN, STEVE, WHILE I GO AND INTERFERE.

HERCULES! HAZMAT!

CONTINUE TO CLEAR THE VAMPIRES, AND KEEP THEM AWAY FROM THE CIVILIANS!

HAWKEYE, YOU NEED TO--



--COME WITH YOU.

EXCUSE ME?

DID YOU MEMORIZE HELICARRIER DECK PLANS WHEN YOU WERE 12?

BECAUSE I--

YES, YES, SCIENCE PROJECT, BLUE RIBBON, WE'RE ALL VERY IMPRESSED.



THEN TELL ME: WHERE ARE WE GOING?

REACTORS, DECK F.

GOOD. HOLD YOUR BREATH.

WHAT--?



WHOOOOOOOSH





IS THIS  
YOUR FIRST  
TIME AS AN  
AVENGER?



YEAH,  
THOUGH I DID  
GO TO AVENGERS  
ACADEMY.

YOU WERE  
A GUEST  
INSTRUCTOR, A  
NUDE ONE. IF I  
REMEMBER  
CORRECTLY,  
WHICH I DO.

PERV.



AH.

MY  
OLYMPIC WRESTLING  
DEMONSTRATION.\*

IN  
RETROSPECT,  
NOT MY MOST WELL-  
THOUGHT-OUT  
ESCAPADE.

\*AVENGERS  
ACADEMY #29!



AH,  
WHATEVER.

HEY, CAN  
YOU BELIEVE THAT  
THEY WERE WORRIED  
THAT I'D BECOME A  
SUPER VILLAIN?

AND LOOK  
AT THE TWO OF  
US NOW! ME,  
FULLY CLOTHED, AND  
YOU, A BONA FIDE  
AVENGER!

YEAH, STUCK  
ON A HELICARRIER  
THAT'S GOING TO  
BLOW UP.

HA HA/  
YES!





...FASTEST WAY TO SHUT DOWN A HELICARRIER IS AN EMERGENCY REACTOR DUMP. WE'VE GOT TO GET IN THERE.

YOU LEARNED ALL OF THIS FROM A SCIENCE PROJECT?

I'M VERY THOROUGH.

I SUPPOSE IT'S NICE THAT ONE HAWKEYE IS.



WELL, DID YOUR SCIENCE PROJECT INCLUDE ACCESS CODES?

WE NEED TO GET THROUGH THIS BLAST DOOR.

THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS.  
PITY.



HEY, MAYBE YOU SHOULD COME UP WITH A PLAN THEN, PAL!

I HAVE A PLAN.

THEN WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

FOR YOU TO ASK.

WAITING IS NOT MY FORTE...EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF SATISFACTION.



WOW. CAN'T IMAGINE WHY THEY DIDN'T CALL YOU FOR THE FIRST-STRING AVENGERS.

HUSH.

HELLO, THE REACTOR CHAMBER!





"MY NAME IS  
PIETRO  
MAXIMOFF."

"YOU MAY KNOW  
ME BETTER AS  
QUICKSILVER."

"SPEECH--  
LIKE WAITING--  
ARE NOT MY  
FORTE."

"SO PLEASE  
CONSIDER THIS  
A THREAT."

"THE AVENGERS HAVE  
TAKEN YOUR SHIP. MY  
COLLEAGUES ARE, AS  
WE SPEAK, ANNIHILATING  
ANY OF YOUR NUMBER  
THEY COME ACROSS."

"AND OUR CAPTAIN  
AMERICA IS FIGHTING  
YOUR BARON BLOOD."

"I ASSUME YOU  
DON'T NEED ME  
TO TELL YOU WHAT  
THAT MEANS."

"WE'RE TALKING  
ABOUT CAPTAIN  
AMERICA."





A  
FIGHT WITH  
HIM ENDS IN  
ONE WAY.

HA!

EVEN  
CAPTAIN AMERICA  
CAN'T SURVIVE A  
CRASH FROM THIS  
ALTITUDE!



HE  
CERTAINLY DID  
IN 1945.



WE'LL DIE  
FOR THE CAUSE,  
AVENGER, AND TAKE  
YOU WITH US!

WE'LL BE  
REMEMBERED AS  
HONORED MARTYRS--  
BARON BLOOD WILL  
RECITE OUR NAMES  
ON THE LIST  
OF HEROES.



IN THAT  
CASE, PERHAPS  
YOU SHOULD LISTEN  
TO THIS.

IDENTICARD,  
PLAYBACK.

TEU

"YOU'D  
SACRIFICE  
YOUR OWN  
PEOPLE?"



"OF  
COURSE I  
WOULD.

"NO GREAT  
LOSS.

"THERE HAS  
NOT, NOR WILL  
THERE EVER BE, A  
SHORTAGE OF  
CREDULOUS FOOLS  
WAITING TO STEP  
IN LINE."











--STILL HAVE  
NO IDEA WHERE  
WE'RE GOING!

WELL, WE'VE  
RUN OUT OF  
VAMPIRES TO SLAY,  
AND I CERTAINLY  
DON'T FEEL LIKE SITTING  
STILL WHEN THERE'S  
HEROISM TO  
BE DONE.

I SAID I  
AGREED! BUT  
WE'RE NOT GOING  
TO HELP CAPTAIN  
AMERICA IF WE  
CAN'T FIND  
HIM--

AH  
HA.

OH  
HO.

LOOKS  
LIKE THIS TUB  
IS STILL FLYING,  
BARON.

MERELY  
FOR THE  
PRESENT,  
CAPTAIN!

YOU  
SUUUUUURE  
ABOUT  
THAT?







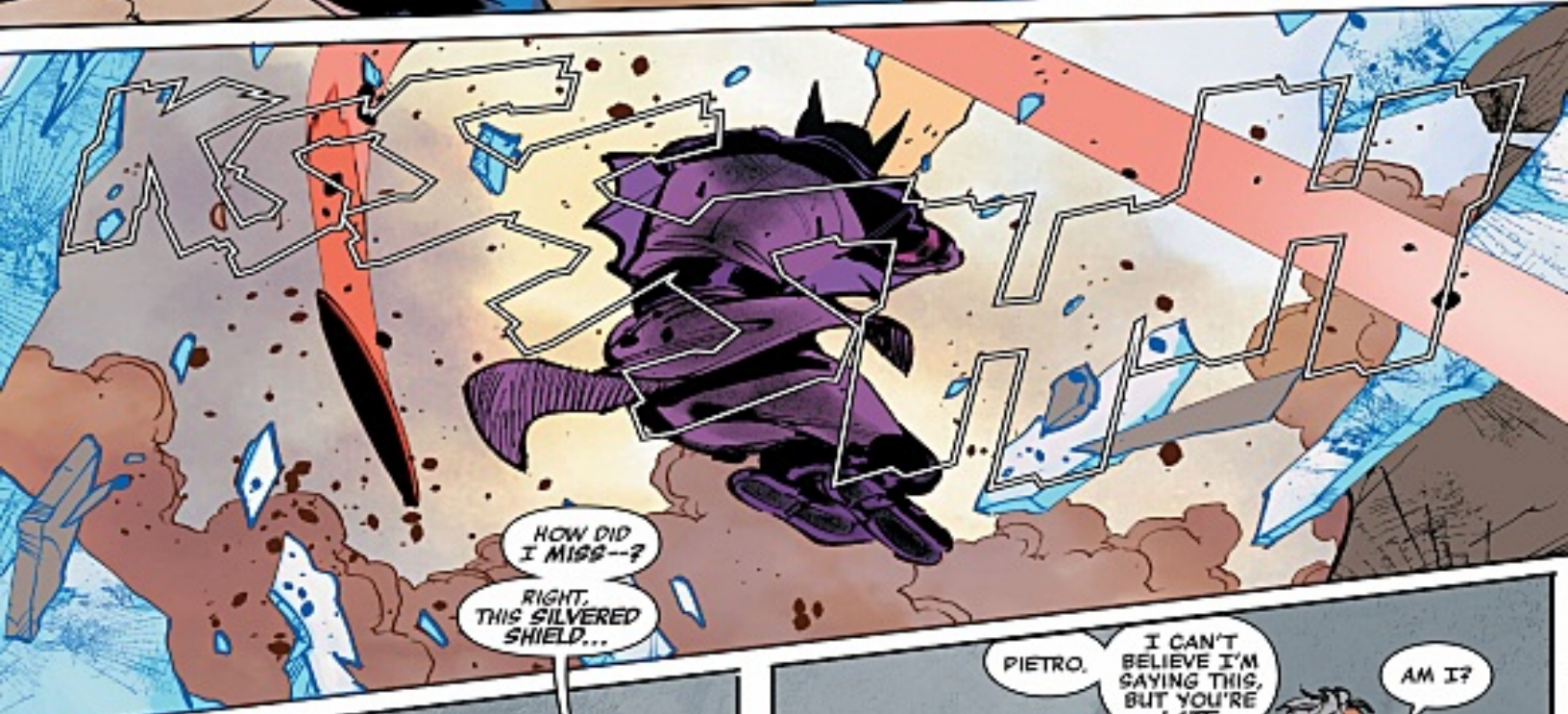


IT'S NEVER OVER, CAPTAIN!

YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT-- WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS DANCE SINCE 1942!

I'LL SEE YOU DEAD YET!

NOT SO FAST--



HOW DID I MISS--?

RIGHT, THIS SILVERED SHIELD...

DAMN IT!



PIETRO.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SAYING THIS, BUT YOU'RE LATE.

AM I?

HE GOT AWAY.

A SHAME.



"THOUGH...HOW FORTUNATE IT IS THAT I WAS TAUGHT HOW TO BE AN AVENGER BY THE GREAT CAPTAIN AMERICA WHEN I WAS JUST A YOUNG EX-SUPER VILLAIN.

"TAUGHT SUCH LESSONS FROM THIS LEGEND OF WORLD WAR II AS ALWAYS HAVE A BACKUP PLAN.

"AND HAVING TAKEN SUCH LESSONS TO HEART...



"...HOW FORTUNATE THAT I BELIEVE SO DEEPLY IN PASSING ON WHAT I'VE LEARNED TO THE NEXT GENERATION."





# AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

That's a wrap on this ad hoc band of Avengers—but don't you worry, True Believers! Captain America has his own (great) solo title, of course, and you might be seeing more of Hercules, Quicksilver, Hawkeye and Hazmat across the Marvel Universe in the future...keep your eyes and ears peeled! This is ALSO C.F. Villa's last issue on this volume of AVENGERS, so Wil and I just wanted to take a moment to thank him for all his great work on the volume. I personally would like to thank him for some really fun panels of Quicksilver looking smug these last few issues! C.F. is moving on to a really exciting new project that's going to be announced soon (or by the time this sees print, it may already have been)! And now on to your letters:

I'm a huge fan of Edwin Jarvis. He's been with the team for so long that he really is "A Grand Tradition," as the title of #11 suggested. It was fun to see him interact with the Impossible City, the improbable new member of the Avengers. I also liked that we took a little breather from all the nonstop action of recent issues. I'd love to see more character interaction like that.

The current lineup is great, but I noticed that most of the members have their own books and all the drama of their lives would likely occur there. It would be awesome to have a few members with which to play with, to have actual character development and stories that happened here, in the pages of AVENGERS. Think about the days when the Wasp and Hank Pym or Vision and the Scarlet Witch stole the show and made us, the faithful readers, come back month after month to see what would happen next in the colorful, dramatic and always interesting lives of those who weren't the A-listers and yet meant so much to us.

Sincerely,  
Lars Meyer  
Germany

Oh, fear not, Lars! There are plenty more emotional stakes and character-driven moments on the horizon—including some colorful drama and deep dives. Did we mention there will soon be TWO pairs of star-crossed exes in the next issue? In the meantime, we can pass all our hopes and dreams for explosive character moments on to Jed. Like, there's got to be ONE Avenger with a cat allergy who needs Carol to take a lint roller to her costume more often, right?

Great issue! I'm a huge X-Men fan & avid reader, so the tie-in to "Fall of X" is a lot of fun. The massive global span of Orchis is staggering, and you guys do a great job portraying that—the Department H box Sentinels from Canada; the Azores; across the U.S. from Alaska to Oklahoma; and now a counterattack happening in space...sheer awesomeness!

And 3-D Man as the logistics mastermind? VERY cool! I'm a huge fan of lesser-known characters being brushed off & given a new coat of awesomeness. I remember Remender & Bunn were always really great at that in VENOM back in the day. Nice to see 3-D Man getting some love.

The tie-in of Captain Marvel's Nega-Band situation with Yuna was fun too (the whole new run by Alyssa Wong has been

fantastic). I'm curious why you didn't tie-in the Australia battle that Stark is engaged in over in Duggan's INVINCIBLE IRON MAN. Maybe that'll come up in issue #13?

Ewing's BLACK PANTHER just ended, so I guess he's not occupied now :D ... I'm not a Thor reader though, so I don't know what might be distracting him. (Something involving Roxxon? Are they affiliated with Orchis? Seems like they could be...) The more inter-world cross-comic ties the better as far as I'm concerned :D

All the best,  
Andrew Salmon  
Alexandria, VA

Hey, Andrew! I recognize your name from your great letters to BLACK PANTHER! I hear you—as a reader, I've always loved watching everything tie together or spotting an unexpected guest star from a different book I was following. As for what's going on with Thor...no, Roxxon is up to something sinister all on their own—check out the hilarious ROXXON PRESENTS: THOR #1 one-shot for a great capsule on the details! (And I might be biased as the assistant editor on IMMORTAL THOR, too, but based on my sense of your comics taste, you would totally dig it—I'm just sayin'...)

On a day where we're supposed to get anywhere from five to fifteen inches of snow, it seemed like the time to catch up on the comic stack. I've been with the Avengers since the Kree/Skrull War, and I want to give thanks for making an AVENGERS book that pops.

I enjoy reading a book when it's being cared for by those who love the characters and understands the relationships between characters. And this team isn't just the Avengers—they are THE AVENGERS. The most self-assured version of this team I've read in a while. The Vision has always been a character I could give or take at any given time, but I'm digging this version you've presented. I want no other members or additional teams. I'm fine with what you have going.

In an age where most people don't seem to reread a book after the first time through, I don't seem to find that to be the case with this book. I feel I can make my way through this run several times.

Continue the greatness,  
Chris Valentine  
Augusta, Maine

Chris, what I wouldn't give for five to fifteen inches of snow—we've reached the point of spring where it's really just pre-summer over here. Glad to hear you got to keep warm with some comics, though, and that you're enjoying! Really appreciate that you can tell how much the team cares about these characters, too. We all do, so it's great when it comes across on the page!

Next month: Storm, sirens and superstar Valerio Schiti (our new ongoing artist!), oh my! See you then!

--Michelle





Earth's Mightiest Heroes return to the center stage! Time for the **Avengers** to regroup—including asking a new member to join their ranks: **STORM!** But there's no rest for the Avengers as a new threat comes hurtling toward Earth...



# BLOOD HUNT

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## JULY CHECKLIST

- BLACK PANTHER: BLOOD HUNT #3
- BLOOD HUNTERS #3
- DOCTOR STRANGE #17
- DRACULA: BLOOD HUNT #3
- MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #22
- X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – PSYLOCKE #1
- WEREWOLF BY NIGHT: BLOOD HUNT #1
- AVENGERS #16
- HULK: BLOOD HUNT #1
- UNION JACK THE RIPPER: BLOOD HUNT #3
- WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #3
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: BLOOD HUNT #3
- BLOOD HUNTERS #4
- X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT –  
LAURA KINNEY THE WOLVERINE #1
- **BLOOD HUNT #5**
- **BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND #5**
- FANTASTIC FOUR #22
- MIDNIGHT SONS: BLOOD HUNT #3
- STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #3
- VENGEANCE OF THE MOON KNIGHT #7
- WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #4